

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system connecting a server computer and a client computer having software including a plurality of functions, said system comprising:

5 informing means for informing a function selected among the plural functions to said server computer;

transmitting means for transmitting usability of the function informed by said informing means to said client computer; and

10 controlling means for controlling the usability of the function informed by said informing means in said client computer according to a transmission from said transmitting means.

15 2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the usability of the function informed by said informing means to be transmitted from said transmitting means is based on whether a price for the function informed by said informing means has been charged or not.

20

3. A system according to claim 1 further comprising:

charging means for charging for a function made to be usable by said controlling means periodically;

25 and

accessing means for accessing said server computer when there is a function remaining not being

10017037-121401

wherein said charging means stops charging for
the function remaining not being used for the
predetermined period of time when said accessing means
5 accessed the server computer.

10

```

informing means for informing a function selected
15 among the plural functions;

```

controlling means for controlling function
20 limitation of the function informed by said informing
means according to the transmission received by said
receiving means.

displaying means for displaying a function the function limitation of which has been removed and a

function the function limitation of which has not been removed separately.

7. A client computer according to claim 5 further comprising:

accessing means for accessing a server computer when there is a function remaining not being used by a user for a predetermined period of time.

8. A server computer comprising:

reception means for receiving information of a function selected by a client computer having software including a plurality of functions;

determining means for determining usability of the informed function; and

transmitting means for transmitting the usability of the informed function that has been determined by said determining means.

9. A server computer according to claim 8, wherein said determining means determines the usability of the informed function on a basis of whether a price for the function informed by said informing means has been charged or not.

25

10. A control method of a system connecting a server computer and a client computer having software

including a plurality of functions, said method comprising the steps of:

informing a function selected among the plural functions to said server computer;

5 transmitting usability of the function informed at said informing step to said client computer; and

controlling the usability of the function informed at said informing step in said client computer according to a transmission at said transmitting step.

10

11. A record medium storing a program readably by a computer for implementing a control method of a system connecting a server computer and a client computer having software including a plurality of

15 functions, said method comprising the steps of:

informing a function selected among the plural functions to said server computer;

transmitting usability of the function informed at said informing step to said client computer; and

20 controlling the usability of the function informed at said informing step in said client computer according to a transmission at said transmitting step.

12. A control method for a client computer having 25 software including a plurality of functions, said method comprising the steps of:

informing a function selected among the plural

1001/007 121401

functions;

receiving a transmission of usability of the
function informed at said informing step; and

controlling function limitation of the function
5 informed at said informing step according to the
transmission received at said receiving step.

13. A record medium storing a program for
implementing a control method of a client computer
10 having software including a plurality of functions,
said method comprising the steps of:

informing a function selected among the plural
functions;

receiving a transmission of usability of the
15 function informed at said informing step; and
controlling function limitation of the function
informed at said informing step according to the
transmission received at said receiving step.

20 14. A control method for controlling a server
computer, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving information of a function selected by a
client computer having software including a plurality
of functions;

25 determining usability of the informed function;
and

transmitting the usability of the informed

function that has been determined at said determining step.

15. A record medium storing a program for
- 5 implementing a control method for controlling a server computer in a state capable of reading said program with a computer, said method comprising the steps of:
- receiving information of a function selected by a client computer having software including a plurality
- 10 of functions;
- determining usability of the informed function;
- and
- transmitting the usability of the informed function that has been determined at said determining
- 15 step.

10017037 424404